

September 1, 1998

Mike Madigan, Chair, and Members of
Bay Delta Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. Madigan and Committee Members:

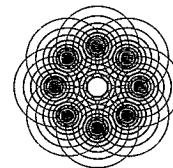
The Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council wished to go on record in support of expanding CALFEDs watershed management concerns to include the rest of the state. This Watershed Council, and I am sure every other one, is concerned about using our limited water resources as efficiently as possible. It is our stated explicit concern to do so in order to limit our need to import water from northern California and from the Colorado River. In fact it is the second of eight major bullets in our Vision of what we would like the watershed to look like in the future, the first of which deals with the environment, the economy, public health and sustainability. This Vision was adopted unanimously by a very disparate group of government agency representatives, community groups, business and academics after many discussions and revisions.

The bullet reads: Throughout Southern California, native and Mediterranean plantings, well adapted to the region's climate, have largely replaced thirsty Hawaiian tropicals and lush green lawns. Reusing household water and captured rainwater for irrigation has become standard practice for homeowners and owners of large parcels alike. The growth of regional water reclamation has outpaced all predictions. Restored wetlands throughout the watershed reduce flooding, improve water quality and recharge groundwater. Parking lots, playgrounds and other previously asphalted areas have been resurfaced to reduce urban runoff and significantly lessen flood hazards. Many new multi-purpose stormwater detention areas, large and small, provide improved flood protection and ground water recharge. New recreational facilities throughout the region offer ready access to once park-poor neighborhoods, with many parks also serving to detain stormwater. The fully integrated flood control/water conservation system, carefully managing both mountain and urban stormwater runoff, conserves a great majority of the regions available rainfall. The Los Angeles region, while still dependent on imported water, now provides a far greater proportion of its own water needs than the previous generation could have imagined.

It is only with the leadership of watershed councils such as ours, that we can truly look forward to a sustainable water future for California.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Green
Dorothy Green, President



THE LOS ANGELES & SAN GABRIEL RIVERS WATERSHED COUNCIL

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